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Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Denise **McQuade** (Ireland)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 53 (see A/64/420). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 33rd, 39th, 41st and 42nd meetings, on 10 November and 4, 9 and 11 December 2009. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/64/SR.33, 39, 41 and 42).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/64/L.21 and Rev.1

2. At the 33rd meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Israel, on behalf of Armenia, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Fiji, Honduras, Israel, Kenya, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Nepal, Norway, Palau, Panama, the Republic of Korea, Turkey, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Uruguay, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Agricultural technology for development" (A/C.2/64/L.21), which read:

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 10 parts, under the symbol A/64/420 and Add.1-9.

Please recycle

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 62/190 of 19 December 2007 on agricultural technology for development,

"*Recalling also* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation'),

"*Recalling further* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Recalling also* its resolution 63/235 of 22 December 2008 on agriculture development and food security,

"*Noting* the previous work done by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions, highlighting the thematic focus on agriculture, and applauding its call to increase investments in training, research and development, in particular on sustainable practices and technologies, including agricultural technologies, and to accelerate the transfer and diffusion of such technologies, information, methods and practices to reach all users including farmers, especially women, youth and indigenous people as well as those in remote rural areas,

"*Acknowledging* the work performed by the High-Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis, established by the Secretary-General in 2008, and the Comprehensive Framework for Action that it produced, specifically its call for increased investments in agricultural technology especially for smallholder farmers as a means to achieve global food security and poverty reduction,

"*Recalling* the World Summit on Food Security convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome from 16 to 18 November 2009, and stressing the vital role of international cooperation in advancing and implementing agricultural technologies,

"*Welcoming* the commitment by members of the Group of Eight in the Joint Statement on Global Food Security, adopted in L'Aquila, Italy, on 10 July 2009, to mobilize 20 billion United States dollars over three years for sustainable agriculture development,

"*Reaffirming its commitment* to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and recognizing the beneficial impact that the adoption of agricultural technologies can have in achieving those goals, including in eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, empowering women, and ensuring environmental sustainability,

"*Concerned* by the slow progress so far in achieving the above-mentioned goals, in particular by the fact that Africa is the only continent currently not on track to achieve any of the goals of the Millennium Declaration by 2015, and recognizing the need to intensify the efforts of the international community in its attempt to reach the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Stressing* the critical role of women in the agricultural sector and their contribution in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty, and underlining further that meaningful progress in agricultural development necessitates a focus on supporting and empowering women,

"*Acknowledging* the role and work of civil society in furthering progress in developing countries and in promoting the use of agricultural technology and the training of smallholder farmers,

"*Aware* of the negative impact that the world financial and economic crisis has on food security and development, specifically in the agricultural sector, as well as of the regression that it could cause in the progress made in achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Considering* the increasing need to innovate in agriculture and food production in order to respond to the challenges posed by, inter alia, climate change, urbanization and globalization, and recognizing that sustainable agricultural technology can greatly contribute to the adaptation of agriculture to, and to the mitigation of the negative impact of climate change,

"1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on agricultural technology for development;

"2. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant United Nations organizations to make greater efforts to develop and share appropriate sustainable agricultural technologies, particularly in and with developing countries, under fair, transparent, and mutually agreed terms, and to support national efforts to foster utilization of local know-how and agricultural technologies, promote agricultural technology research and enable poor rural women, men, and youth to increase sustainable agricultural productivity and enhance food security;

"3. *Calls attention* to the crucial role of women in the agricultural sector, and therefore calls upon Member States to promote and support better access of women to agricultural technology information and know-how, equipment, and decision-making forums;

"4. *Underlines* the importance of supporting and advancing research in improving and diversifying crop varieties that are more resistant to environmental stress, including drought and climate change, including research on conservation agriculture, as well as supporting the establishment of agricultural systems and sustainable management practices that positively contribute also to the adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, and ecological balance;

"5. *Encourages* Member States, civil society, and public and private institutions to develop partnerships to support financial and market services, including training, capacity-building and extension services to farmers, in particular smallholder farmers, and calls for further efforts by all stakeholders to make agricultural technologies available and affordable to smallholder farmers;

"6. *Calls upon* Member States to include agricultural development as an integral part of their national sustainable development strategies and notes the positive impact that South-South cooperation can have on their

implementation, and urges the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to include elements of agricultural technology, research and development in efforts to achieve relevant Millennium Development Goals;

"7. *Requests* relevant United Nations organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, to promote, support and facilitate the exchange of experience among Member States on ways to expand areas for agriculture through technologies that allow soil recovery and agricultural production in pressing environmental circumstances;

"8. *Underscores* the instrumental role of agricultural technology in furthering sustainable development and in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, and therefore calls upon Member States and encourages relevant international bodies to support sustainable agricultural research and development, and in this regard calls for the continued support to the international agricultural research system, including to the International Agricultural Research Centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research as well as other relevant international organizations;

"9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

3. At its 39th meeting, on 4 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/64/L.21/Rev.1), submitted by the representative of Israel on behalf of Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Mozambique, Nauru, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Belize and Timor-Leste joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the revised draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.21/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 131 to none, with 37 abstentions (see para. 20, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte

d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of),Yemen, Zambia.

6. Before the vote, a statement in explanation of vote was made by the representative of Iraq, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Arab States; after the vote, a statement was made by the representative of Israel (see A/C.2/64/SR.39).

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/64/L.22 and Rev.1

7. At the 33rd meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Tajikistan, on behalf of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Madagascar, Mauritius, the Philippines, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan and Ukraine, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Life', 2005-2015" (A/C.2/64/L.22), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 55/196 of 20 December 2000, by which it proclaimed 2003 the International Year of Freshwater, its resolution 58/217 of 23 December 2003, by which it proclaimed that the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Life', 2005-2015, would commence on World Water Day, 22 March 2005, and its resolution 59/228, by which it decided to consider the

future arrangements for the review of the implementation of the Decade for Action,

"*Emphasizing* that water is critical for sustainable development, including environmental integrity and the eradication of poverty and hunger, and is indispensable for human health and well-being,

"*Recalling* the provisions of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 adopted at its nineteenth special session, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation') and the decisions of the Economic and Social Council and of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its sixth session relating to freshwater,

"*Reaffirming* the internationally agreed development goals on water and sanitation, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and determined to achieve the goal to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water, and the goals set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to halve the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation as well as to develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005, with support to developing countries,

"*Recalling* Human Rights Council resolution 7/22 of 28 March 2008, on human rights and access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

"*Taking note* of the Istanbul Declaration of Heads of State on Water, adopted at the Fifth World Water Forum, held from 16 to 22 March 2009, the Istanbul ministerial statement and the Istanbul Water Guide, which include numerous recommendations for concrete action to improve water security and water management at all levels; the Message from Beppu, adopted at the first Asia-Pacific Water Forum, held in Beppu, Japan, on 3 and 4 December 2007; and the appeal and recommendations, adopted at the International Conference on Regional Cooperation in Transboundary River Basins, held in Dushanbe from 30 May to 1 June 2005,

"*Taking note with appreciation* of the contribution made by the United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation and its work on the Hashimoto Action Plan: Compendium of Actions, a compendium of water-related actions that relevant actors should consider, as appropriate,

"*Noting* that the Sixth World Water Forum will be held in Marseille in 2012,

"*Taking note* of the activities of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation, and the organizations of the United Nations system, through their coordination mechanism, and looking forward to their contribution to the mobilization of efforts and resources towards the implementation of the commitments, goals and targets agreed upon in those areas,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General and of the first, second and third editions of the World Water Development Report;

"2. *Welcomes* the activities related to freshwater undertaken by Member States, the United Nations Secretariat and the organizations of the

United Nations system, inter alia, through inter-agency work, as well as contributions from major groups for the observance of the International Year of Freshwater, 2003, and the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Life', 2005-2015;

"3. *Encourages* Member States, the Secretariat, organizations of the United Nations system, through their coordination mechanism, and major groups to continue their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed water-related goals contained in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

"4. *Welcomes* the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its twelfth, thirteenth and sixteenth sessions and looks forward to the furthering of the activities of the Commission on the thematic cluster of issues on water and sanitation;

"5. *Decides*, in accordance with paragraph 9 of its resolution 59/228, to convene, in the city of Dushanbe, preferably in June 2010, a high-level international conference on the midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Life', 2005-2015, and of the internationally agreed water-related goals;

"6. *Also decides* that, in line with General Assembly resolution 57/270 B, the midterm comprehensive review should assess the progress made in the implementation of the first half of the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Life', 2005-2015, and in the implementation of the internationally agreed water-related goals; share best practices and lessons learned; and identify obstacles and constraints encountered and actions and initiatives needed to overcome them;

"7. *Further decides* to commence the preparatory process for the midterm comprehensive review during the present session of the General Assembly and, to this end, invites the President of the Assembly to hold intergovernmental consultations, with the participation of all Member States, on the issues related to the conference, and decides that these consultations must be open, inclusive and transparent and that they should lead to the identification of the modalities and the organization of the work of the conference by 22 March 2010;

"8. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to convene a high-level dialogue of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly in New York on 22 March 2010, World Water Day, with the participation of representatives of governmental and non-governmental organizations, civil societies and the private sector, on the implementation of the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Life', 2005-2015, and the realization of the internationally agreed water-related goals;

"9. *Stresses* the importance of the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the Decade at all levels and emphasizes the importance of country-level preparations as a critical input to the preparatory process for the midterm comprehensive review and to the implementation of and the follow-up to its outcome and, in this context, calls upon Member States to undertake their national reviews on the implementation

of the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Life', 2005-2015, and on the realization of the internationally agreed water-related goals, with a particular focus on progress, obstacles, constraints, actions and measures necessary for its further implementation;

"10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a note on the organization of work of the high-level international conference;

"11. *Invites* the Secretary-General to take appropriate actions in organizing the activities of the second half of the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Life', 2005-2015, taking into account the results of the International Year of Freshwater and the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its twelfth, thirteenth and sixteenth sessions;

"12. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system to step up their efforts to deliver a coordinated response in order to make the Decade a decade of delivering promises through the use of existing resources and voluntary funds;

"13. *Notes with interest* the partnership initiatives on water and sanitation undertaken within the framework of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and in the follow-up to the Summit and in accordance with the criteria and guidelines adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eleventh session;

"14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, as well as on the activities planned by the Secretary-General and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system for the Decade."

8. At its 41st meeting, on 9 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/64/L.22/Rev.1), submitted by the representative of Tajikistan, on behalf of Afghanistan, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Canada, Chile, the Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Kazakhstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mongolia, Peru, the Philippines, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uruguay. Subsequently, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, El Salvador, Greece, Haiti, Israel, Italy, Monaco, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, and Solomon Islands joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

9. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.22/Rev.1.

10. Also at the same meeting, the Rapporteur of the Committee orally corrected operative paragraph 6 of the revised draft resolution.

11. Also at its 41st meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.22/Rev.1, as orally corrected (see para. 20, draft resolution II).

12. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Cuba, to which the Secretary of the Committee and the Director of the Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs responded (see A/C.2/64/SR.41).

C. Draft resolutions A/C.2/64/L.25 and A/C.2/64/L.59

13. At the 33rd meeting, on 10 November, the representative of the Sudan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/64/L.25), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 A and B of 20 December 2002 and 23 June 2003, respectively, 62/189 of 19 December 2007 and 63/212 of 19 December 2008, and all other previous resolutions on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

"*Recalling also* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation'), as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,

"*Reaffirming* the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Reaffirming* the decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

"*Reiterating* that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, and reaffirming the continuing need to ensure a balance among economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

"*Noting* that challenges remain in achieving the goals of the three pillars of sustainable development, particularly in the context of the current global crises, and convinced of the urgency of the challenges being faced and of the need for a bold, determined and innovative response to those crises, namely, one that protects the development gains of the past decades and accelerates progress towards sustainable development,

"*Welcoming* the proposal to convene a world summit on sustainable development in Brazil in 2012,

"*Recalling* the adoption of the Commission multi-year programme of work designed to contribute to advancing the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation at all levels,

"*Reaffirming* that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

"*Recognizing* that good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development,

"*Recalling* that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation designated the Commission to serve as the focal point for discussion on partnerships that promote sustainable development and contribute to the implementation of intergovernmental commitments in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

"*Recognizing* that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

"*Recalling* that the Economic and Social Council should increase its role in overseeing system-wide coordination and the balanced integration of economic, social and environmental aspects of United Nations policies and programmes aimed at promoting sustainable development, and reaffirming that the Commission should continue to be the high-level commission on sustainable development within the United Nations system and serve as a forum for consideration of issues related to integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,

"*Welcoming* the outcome of the seventeenth session of the Commission in respect of the thematic cluster of issues on Africa, agriculture, drought and desertification, land and rural development, and reaffirming the need to implement the decisions and commitments contained therein,

"*Recalling* that the thematic clusters of issues for consideration at the Commission's eighteenth and nineteenth sessions, namely, on transport, chemicals, waste management and mining, and on a ten-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns, respectively, are interlinked and should be addressed in an integrated manner, taking into account economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, related sectoral policies and cross-cutting issues including means of implementation, as identified at the eleventh session of the Commission,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. *Reiterates* that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and those contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

"3. *Calls upon* Governments, all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as major groups, to take action to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and encourages them to report on concrete progress in that regard;

"4. *Calls for* the effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and for the fulfilment of the provisions relating to the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

"5. *Reiterates* that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as a forum for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development;

"6. *Encourages* countries to present, on a voluntary basis, in particular at the Commission's review sessions, national reports focusing on concrete progress in implementation, including achievements, constraints, challenges and opportunities;

"7. *Emphasizes* the importance of a consensus outcome and action-oriented policy sessions;

"8. *Encourages* Governments to participate at the appropriate level with representatives, including ministers, from the relevant departments and organizations working in the areas of transport, chemicals, waste management and mining and the ten-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns, as well as finance, in the eighteenth session of the Commission;

"9. *Recalls* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that activities during Commission meetings should provide for the balanced involvement of participants from all regions, as well as for gender balance;

"10. *Invites* donor countries to consider supporting the participation of representatives from the developing countries in the eighteenth session of the Commission, inter alia, through contributions to the Commission's trust fund;

"11. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21, including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, in particular for developing countries;

"12. *Also reaffirms* the objective of enhancing the participation and effective involvement of civil society and other relevant stakeholders, as well as promoting transparency and broad public participation, in the implementation of Agenda 21;

"13. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to coordinate the participation of the relevant major groups in the thematic discussions at the eighteenth session of the Commission and its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting and the reporting on the fulfilment of corporate accountability and responsibility with respect to the thematic cluster of issues, in accordance with the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

"14. *Reaffirms* the need to promote corporate responsibility and accountability as envisaged by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

"15. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to make arrangements to facilitate the balanced representation of major groups from developed and developing countries in the sessions of the Commission, and in this regard invites donor countries to consider supporting the participation of major groups from developing countries, inter alia, through contributions to the Commission's trust fund;

"16. *Encourages* contributions by the regional implementation meetings and other regional events to the Commission at its eighteenth session;

"17. *Reiterates the invitation* to the relevant specialized agencies, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the secretariats of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, and other relevant organizations dealing with chemicals, United Nations funds and programmes, the Global Environment Facility and international and regional financial and trade institutions, as well as the secretariats of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity (the 'Rio conventions') and other relevant bodies, to actively participate, within their mandates, in the work of the Commission at its eighteenth session;

"18. *Encourages* Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, to undertake results-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission and to promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives;

"19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the Commission at its eighteenth session, on the basis of appropriate inputs from all levels, to submit thematic reports on each of the five issues contained in the thematic cluster of issues on transport, chemicals, waste management and mining and

the ten-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns, taking into account their interlinkages, while addressing the cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation identified by the Commission at its eleventh session, and also takes into account the relevant provisions of paragraphs 10, 14 and 15 of draft resolution I of the eleventh session of the Commission as well as the overview of progress towards sustainable development: a review of the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

"20. *Decides* to organize, in 2012, a World Summit for the Follow-up on Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and, in this regard, accepts with gratitude the generous offer of the Government of Brazil to host this Summit; and also decides:

"(a) That the Summit shall focus on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, including other relevant sustainable development issues, in order to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development;

"(b) That the focus of the Summit, including its preparatory process, should ensure a balance among economic development, social development and environmental protection, as these are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development;

"(c) That, to this effect, it is important that there be early and effective preparations at the local, national, regional, and international levels by Governments and the United Nations system so as to ensure high-quality inputs;

"(d) To invite relevant stakeholders, including organizations and bodies of the United Nations and international financial institutions involved with the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to participate fully in the twenty-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of Agenda 21, including in the preparation of reports for submission to the Preparatory Committee for the Summit, in order to reflect their experiences and the lessons learned and to provide ideas and proposals;

"(e) To encourage effective contributions from, and the active participation of, all major groups, as identified in Agenda 21, at all stages of the preparatory process, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the Commission on Sustainable Development, as well as its established practices related to the participation and engagement of major groups;

"(f) That the Commission on Sustainable Development shall meet as the open-ended Preparatory Committee for the Summit and that its first meeting will be held for five days in 2010 immediately after the consideration by the Commission of the thematic cluster of issues for its eighteenth session, as part of the session, and that the Commission, acting as the Preparatory Committee, shall provide for the full and effective participation of all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, as well as other participants in the Commission, in accordance with the rules of procedure of

the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and the supplementary arrangements established for the Commission by the Council in its decisions 1993/215 of 12 February 1993 and 1995/201 of 8 February 1995, in further discussions on the preparatory process, and requests the Secretary-General to provide a preliminary report in this regard;

"(g) To request the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the state of preparations for the Summit for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, taking into account preliminary discussions at the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee;

"(h) That the Commission on Sustainable Development, acting as the Preparatory Committee, shall hold its second meeting, of five days' duration, in 2011 immediately after the consideration by the Commission of the thematic cluster of issues for its nineteenth session, as part of the session, and shall provide for the full and effective participation of all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, as well as other participants in the Commission, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and the supplementary arrangements established for the Commission by the Council in its decisions 1993/215 and 1995/201;

"(i) That the Commission on Sustainable Development shall postpone its 2012-2013 cycle on forests, biodiversity, biotechnology, tourism and mountains for one year, to 2013-2014, and that the Commission, acting as the Preparatory Committee, shall hold its third and final meeting, at the ministerial level, in 2012, immediately preceding the Summit, and shall provide for the full and effective participation of all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, as well as other participants in the Commission, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and the supplementary arrangements established for the Commission by the Council in its decisions 1993/215 and 1995/201;

"(j) That the regional implementation meetings shall be converted into regional preparatory meetings for the Summit and also decides to encourage the organization of these meetings at the ministerial level;

"(k) To urge international and bilateral donors and other countries in a position to do so to support the preparations for the Summit through voluntary contributions to the trust fund and to support the participation of representatives of developing countries in the regional and international preparatory processes and in the Summit itself;

"(l) To encourage voluntary contributions to support the participation of major groups of developing countries in the regional and international preparatory processes and in the Summit itself;

"21. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled 'Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development', and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

14. At its 42nd meeting, on 11 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/64/L.59), submitted by the Rapporteur on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.25.

15. The Committee also had before it a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.59 submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and contained in document A/C.2/64/L.74.

16. At the same meeting, the Rapporteur orally corrected operative paragraph 25 (c) of the draft resolution by inserting, in reference to the Conference, the words "which will also be held for three days".

17. Also at its 42nd meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.59, as orally corrected (see para. 20, draft resolution III).

18. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Brazil, Nicaragua, Indonesia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Sweden (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) (see A/C.2/64/SR.42).

19. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.59, draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.25 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

20. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Agricultural technology for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/190 of 19 December 2007 on agricultural technology for development,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5]

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[6]

Recalling its resolution 63/235 of 22 December 2008 on agriculture development and food security,

Recognizing the work done by the Commission on Sustainable Development, in particular at its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions, highlighting the thematic focus on agriculture-related issues, and applauding its call to increase investment in training research and development, in particular on sustainable practices and technologies, including agricultural technologies, and to accelerate the transfer and diffusion of such technologies, information, methods and practices to reach all users, including farmers, women, youth and indigenous people as well as those in remote rural areas,

Acknowledging the work performed by the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis, established by the Secretary-General in 2008, and the Comprehensive Framework for Action that it produced, specifically its call for increased investments in the development of agricultural technology as well as the transfer and use of existing technologies, as appropriate, especially for smallholder farmers as a means to achieve global food security and poverty reduction,

Recalling the World Summit on Food Security convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome from 16 to 18 November

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] See resolution 60/1.

2009, and stressing the vital role of international cooperation in advancing and implementing agricultural technologies,

Welcoming the commitment by the Group of Eight and more than twenty-five countries and organizations in the Joint Statement on Global Food Security, adopted in L'Aquila, Italy, on 10 July 2009, towards the goal of mobilizing 20 billion United States dollars over three years focused on sustainable agriculture development,

Reaffirming its commitment to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and recognizing the beneficial impact that the adoption of agricultural technologies can have in achieving those goals, including in eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, empowering women and ensuring environmental sustainability,

Concerned by the slow progress so far in achieving the above-mentioned goals, in particular by the fact that Africa remains the only continent currently not on track to achieve any of the goals of the Millennium Declaration by 2015, and recognizing the need to intensify the efforts of the international community in its attempt to reach the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Acknowledging the importance and the potential of smallholder farmers in increasing agricultural production, achieving economic growth and reducing poverty,

Stressing the critical role of women in the agricultural sector and their contribution in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty, and underlining further that meaningful progress in agricultural development necessitates a focus on supporting and empowering women,

Acknowledging the role and work of civil society in furthering progress in developing countries, in promoting the use of sustainable agricultural technology and the training of smallholder farmers, in raising awareness and in the provision and dissemination of information,

Aware that the world financial and economic crisis, in addition to other global challenges, has a negative impact on food security and development, specifically in the agricultural sector, thereby negatively impacting the most vulnerable groups and potentially setting back progress made in achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

Considering the increasing need to innovate in agriculture and food production in order to respond to the challenges posed by, inter alia, climate change, depletion and scarcity of natural resources, urbanization and globalization, and recognizing that sustainable agricultural technologies can greatly contribute to the adaptation of agriculture to, and help to mitigate the negative impact of, climate change, land degradation and desertification,

Underlining the importance of collaboration, sharing of information and dissemination of agricultural technology research results as well as wide consultation when defining the global, regional and national research agendas, and in this regard noting the valuable role of, inter alia, the Global Forum on Agricultural Research and its affiliated or associated organizations,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on agricultural technology for development;[7]

2. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant United Nations organizations to make greater efforts to develop and disseminate appropriate sustainable agricultural technologies, particularly in and with developing countries, under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms, and to support national efforts to foster utilization of local know-how and agricultural technologies, promote agricultural technology research and enable poor rural women, men and youth to increase sustainable agricultural productivity and enhance food security;

3. *Calls attention* to the crucial role of women in the agricultural sector, and therefore calls upon Member States to promote and support better access of women to agricultural technology information and know-how, equipment and decision-making forums;

4. *Underlines* the importance of supporting and advancing research in improving and diversifying crop varieties, as well as supporting the establishment of agricultural systems and sustainable management practices, in order to make agriculture more resilient and, in particular, to make crops more tolerant to environmental stress, including drought and climate change, in a manner consistent with national regulations and relevant international agreements;

5. *Also underlines* the importance of the sustainable use and management of water resources to increase and ensure agricultural productivity, and calls for further efforts to strengthen the provision and proper maintenance of irrigation facilities as well as to introduce water-saving technology, considering the possible impact of climate change on water resources;

6. *Encourages* Member States, civil society and public and private institutions to develop partnerships to support financial and market services, including training, capacity-building, infrastructure and extension services to farmers, in particular smallholder farmers, and calls for further efforts by all stakeholders to make appropriate sustainable agricultural technologies available and affordable to smallholder farmers;

7. *Calls upon* Member States to include sustainable agricultural development as an integral part of their national policies and strategies, notes the positive impact that North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation can have in this regard, and urges the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to include elements of agricultural technology, research and development in efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals;

8. *Requests* relevant United Nations organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, to promote, support and facilitate the exchange of experience among Member States on ways to sustainably expand areas for agriculture and increase opportunities for agricultural development through technologies that allow soil recovery, improve soil fertility and increase agricultural production in pressing environmental circumstances;

[7] A/64/258.

9. *Underlines* the instrumental role of agricultural technology in furthering sustainable development and in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, calls therefore upon Member States and encourages relevant international bodies to support sustainable agricultural research and development, and in this regard calls for continued support to the international agricultural research system, including the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and other relevant international organizations;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution II
Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/196 of 20 December 2000, by which it proclaimed 2003 the International Year of Freshwater, its resolution 58/217 of 23 December 2003, by which it proclaimed that the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, would commence on World Water Day, 22 March 2005, and its resolution 59/228 of 22 December 2004,

Emphasizing that water is critical for sustainable development, including environmental integrity and the eradication of poverty and hunger, and is indispensable for human health and well-being,

Recalling the provisions of Agenda 21,[1] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 adopted at its nineteenth special session,[2] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[3] and the decisions of the Economic and Social Council and of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its sixth session[4] relating to freshwater,

Reaffirming the internationally agreed development goals on water and sanitation, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[5] and determined to achieve the goal to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water, and the goals set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to halve the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation as well as to develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005, with support to developing countries,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 7/22 of 28 March 2008[6] and 12/8 of 1 October 2009, on human rights and access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

Taking note of national, regional and international efforts to implement the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and of numerous recommendations from international and regional water and water-related events, in view of taking concrete actions to accelerate progress at all levels towards achieving the internationally agreed water-related goals contained in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I, *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[4] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 9* (E/1998/29).

[5] See resolution 55/2.

[6] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.A.

Taking note also of the holding of the Fifth World Water Forum in Istanbul from 16 to 22 March 2009, and noting that the Sixth World Water Forum will be held in Marseille, France, March 2012,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[7]

2. *Welcomes* the activities related to the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, undertaken by Member States, the United Nations Secretariat and the organizations of the United Nations system, inter alia, through inter-agency work, as well as contributions from major groups, and emphasizes the importance of country-level implementation of the Decade;

3. *Encourages* Member States, the Secretariat, organizations of the United Nations system through their coordination mechanism, and major groups to continue their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed water-related goals contained in Agenda 21,[1] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[2] the United Nations Millennium Declaration[5] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[3]

4. *Welcomes* the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its twelfth, thirteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth sessions on the issues of water and sanitation, and looks forward to any relevant activities of the Commission;

5. *Welcomes* the generous offer of the Government of Tajikistan to host, in June 2010, a high-level international conference on the midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015;

6. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to convene a high-level interactive dialogue of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly in New York on 22 March 2010, World Water Day, on the implementation of the Decade;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous people and other local communities, in the implementation of the Decade at all levels, including its midterm comprehensive review;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a note on the organization of work of the conference;

9. *Invites* the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system to actively engage in the preparations for the high-level conference;

10. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with UN-Water, to take appropriate actions to support Member States in the implementation of the second half of the Decade;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, as well as on the activities planned by the Secretary-General and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system for the Decade.

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[7] A/59/167 and A/60/158.

Draft resolution III
Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 A and B of 20 December 2002 and 23 June 2003, respectively, 62/189 of 19 December 2007 and 63/212 of 19 December 2008, and all other previous resolutions on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[6] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[7]

Recalling further the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[8] the Declaration and state of progress and initiatives for the future implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[9] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[10]

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[8] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[9] Resolution S-22/2, annex.

[10] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Reaffirming the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[11]

Reaffirming the decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,[12]

Recalling the adoption by the Commission of a multi-year programme of work[12] designed to contribute to advancing the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation at all levels,

Recalling also the decision taken by the Commission at its eleventh session that in review years it should discuss the contribution of partnerships towards supporting the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation with a view to sharing lessons learned and best practices, identifying and addressing problems, gaps and constraints and providing further guidance, including on reporting, during policy years, as necessary,[13]

Reiterating that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, and reaffirming the continuing need to ensure a balance among economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

Noting that challenges remain in achieving the goals of the three pillars of sustainable development, particularly in the context of the current global crises,

Taking note with appreciation of the offer of the Government of Brazil to host a United Nations conference on sustainable development in 2012,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

Recognizing that good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development,

Recalling that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation designated the Commission to serve as the focal point for discussion on partnerships that promote sustainable development and contribute to the implementation of intergovernmental commitments in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

Recognizing that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in

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[11] See resolution 60/1.

[12] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I.

[13] Ibid., draft resolution I, para. 23 (e).

particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[14]

Recalling that the Economic and Social Council should increase its role in overseeing system-wide coordination and the balanced integration of economic, social and environmental aspects of United Nations policies and programmes aimed at promoting sustainable development, and reaffirming that the Commission should continue to be the high-level commission on sustainable development within the United Nations system and serve as a forum for consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,

Welcoming the outcome of the seventeenth session of the Commission on the thematic issues of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa,[15]

Recalling that the themes of the eighteenth and nineteenth sessions of the Commission, namely, transport, chemicals, waste management, mining and a ten-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns[16] are interlinked and should be addressed in an integrated manner, taking into account the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, related sectoral policies and cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation, as identified at the eleventh session of the Commission,

Reiterating that fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development and that all countries should promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and with all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the Rio principles,[17] including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as set out in paragraph 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and also reiterating that Governments, relevant international organizations, the private sector and all major groups should play an active role in changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[18]

2. *Reiterates* that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and those contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[5]

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[14] See resolution 55/2.

[15] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 9* (E/2009/29), chap. I, resolution 17/1.

[16] Ibid., draft decision II.

[17] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[18] A/64/275.

3. *Calls upon* Governments, all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as major groups, to take action to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and encourages them to report on concrete progress in that regard;

4. *Calls for* the effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and for the fulfilment of the provisions relating to the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as a forum for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, and underlines the need to further support the work of the Commission, taking into account its existing mandate and the decisions taken at its eleventh session;

6. *Encourages* countries to present, on a voluntary basis, in particular at the Commission's review sessions, national reports focusing on concrete progress in implementation, including achievements, constraints, challenges and opportunities;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of a consensus outcome and action-oriented policy sessions;

8. *Encourages* Governments to participate at the appropriate level with representatives, including ministers, from the relevant departments and organizations working in the areas of transport, chemicals, waste management, mining and sustainable consumption and production, as well as finance, in the eighteenth session of the Commission;

9. *Recalls* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that activities during Commission meetings should provide for the balanced involvement of participants from all regions, as well as for gender balance;[19]

10. *Invites* donor countries to consider supporting the participation of representatives from the developing countries in the eighteenth session of the Commission, inter alia, through contributions to the Commission's trust fund;

11. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21,[2] including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, in particular for developing countries;

12. *Also reaffirms* the objective of enhancing the participation and effective involvement of civil society and other relevant stakeholders, as well as promoting transparency and broad public participation, in the implementation of Agenda 21;

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[19] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 2 (j).

13. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to coordinate the participation of the relevant major groups in the thematic discussions at the eighteenth session of the Commission and the reporting on the fulfilment of corporate accountability and responsibility with respect to the thematic cluster of issues, in accordance with the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

14. *Reaffirms* the need to promote corporate social responsibility and accountability as envisaged by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

15. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to make arrangements to facilitate the balanced representation of major groups from developed and developing countries in the sessions of the Commission, and in this regard invites donor countries to consider supporting the participation of major groups from developing countries, inter alia, through contributions to the Commission's trust fund;

16. *Encourages* contributions by the regional implementation meetings and other regional events to the Commission at its eighteenth session;

17. *Reiterates the invitation* to the relevant United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and specialized agencies, the international and regional financial and trade institutions and the Global Environment Facility, as well as the secretariats of the multilateral environmental agreements and other relevant bodies, to actively participate, within their mandates, in the work of the Commission at its eighteenth session;

18. *Encourages* Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, to undertake results-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission and to promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[3] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the Commission at its eighteenth session, on the basis of appropriate inputs from all levels, to submit a thematic report on each of the five issues contained in the thematic cluster to be considered at the session, namely, transport, chemicals, waste management, mining and a ten-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns, taking into account their interlinkages as well as cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation identified by the Commission at its eleventh session, and takes into account the relevant provisions of paragraphs 10, 14 and 15 of draft resolution I adopted by the Commission at its eleventh session;[12]

20. *Decides* to organize, in 2012, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development at the highest possible level, including Heads of State and Government or other representatives, and in this regard accepts with gratitude the generous offer of the Government of Brazil to host the Conference, and also decides that:

(a) The objective of the Conference will be to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges; the focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during

the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development;

(b) The Conference will result in a focused political document;

(c) The Conference and its preparatory process should take into account the decision taken at the eleventh session of the Commission to carry out, at the conclusion of the multi-year programme of work, an overall appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

(d) The Conference, including its preparatory process, should ensure the balanced integration of economic development, social development and environmental protection, as these are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development;

(e) It is important that there be efficient and effective preparations at the local, national, regional and international levels by Governments and the United Nations system so as to ensure high-quality inputs without placing undue strain on Member States;

(f) It must be ensured that the Conference and related preparations do not adversely affect other ongoing activities;

21. *Encourages* the active participation of all major groups, as identified in Agenda 21 and further elaborated in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission, at all stages of the preparatory process, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the Commission as well as its established practices related to the participation and engagement of major groups;

22. *Invites* relevant stakeholders, including organizations and bodies of the United Nations, international financial institutions and major groups involved in the area of sustainable development, to provide ideas and proposals reflecting their experiences and lessons learned as a contribution to the preparatory process;

23. *Decides* that a preparatory committee will be established within the framework of the Commission to carry out the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, which will provide for the full and effective participation of all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, as well as other participants in the Commission, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and the supplementary arrangements established for the Commission by the Council in its decisions 1993/215 of 12 February 1993 and 1995/201 of 8 February 1995;

24. *Invites* regional groups to nominate their candidates for the ten-member Bureau of the Preparatory Committee no later than 28 February 2010 so that they can be involved in its preparations in advance of the first session of the Preparatory Committee;

25. *Decides* that:

(a) The first meeting of the Preparatory Committee will be held in 2010 for three days, immediately after the conclusion of the eighteenth session and the first meeting of the nineteenth session of the Commission to discuss the substantive

themes of the Conference, as decided by the present resolution, and pending procedural matters, as well as to elect the Bureau;

(b) The second meeting of the Preparatory Committee will be held in 2011 for two days immediately after the conclusion of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting of the nineteenth session of the Commission to discuss further the substantive themes of the Conference;

(c) The third and final meeting of the Preparatory Committee will be held in Brazil in 2012 for three days to discuss the outcome of the Conference, immediately preceding the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, which will also be held for three days; in this regard, the Commission will postpone its multi-year programme of work for one year;

(d) Regional implementation meetings will become regional preparatory meetings for the Conference in 2011;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits in the area of sustainable development, as well as an analysis of the themes identified above, to the Preparatory Committee at its first meeting;

27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide all appropriate support to the work of the preparatory process and the Conference, ensuring inter-agency participation and coherence as well as the efficient use of resources;

28. *Encourages* international and bilateral donors and other countries in a position to do so to support the preparations for the Conference through voluntary contributions to the Commission's trust fund and to support the participation of representatives of developing countries, and invites voluntary contributions to support the participation of major groups of developing countries in the regional and international preparatory processes and the Conference itself;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development", and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including on the progress of the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

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